

The Internet Model and Ecosystem

The Internet Society

- Founded in 1992 by Internet pioneers
- International non-profit organization
 - 90+ organization members
 - 28,000+ individual members
 - 90+ chapters worldwide
 - Regional bureaus: Africa, Europe, Latin America & Caribbean, North America South & South East Asia
- ISOC is an international cause-related organization that works for the open development and evolution of the Internet for all people.
- We do so through work across the areas of technical standards, education and capacity-building as well as public policy.

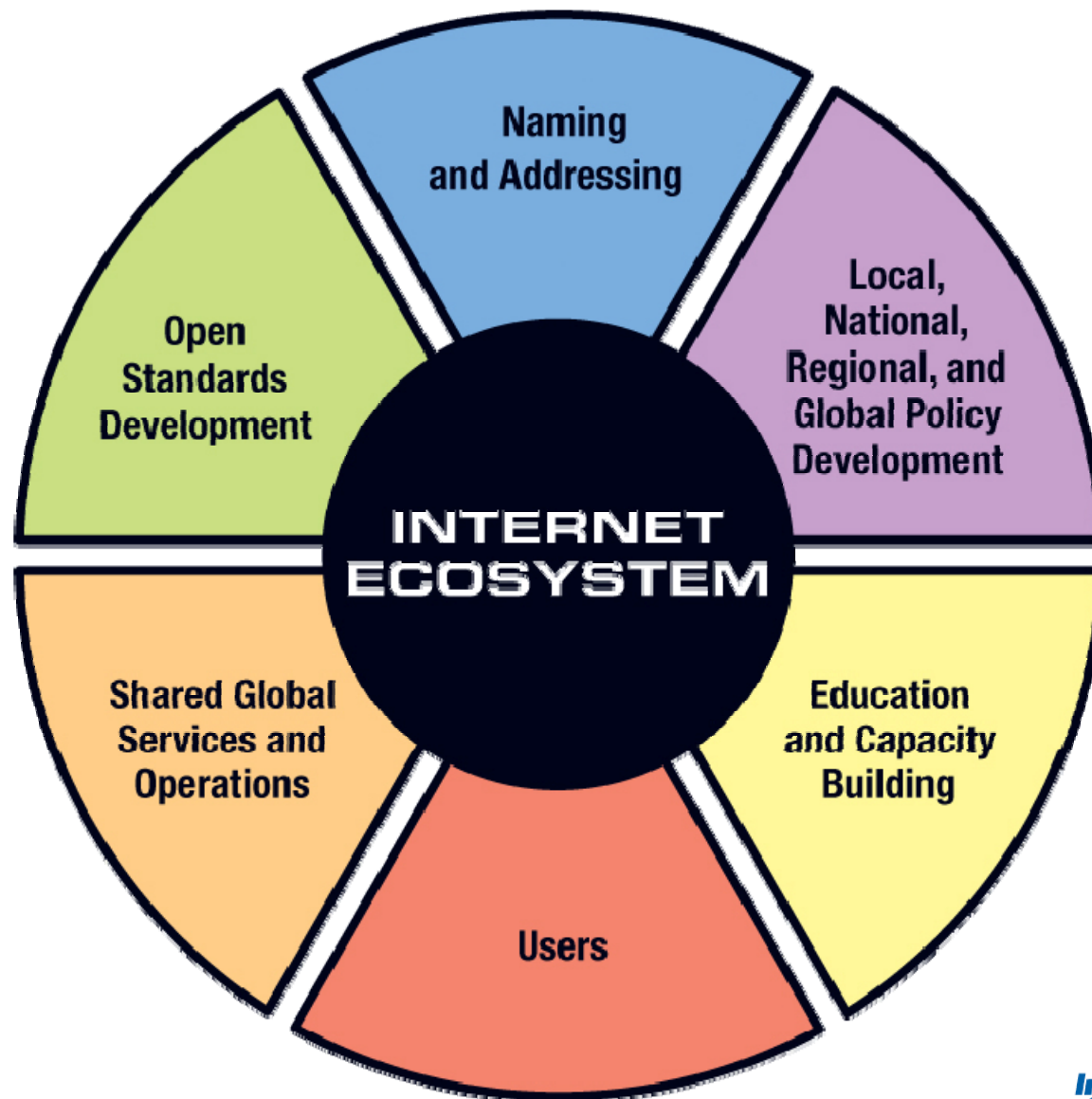
The Internet Today

- A complex system, still evolving rapidly
- Nowhere near being a “legacy” system
- A “network of networks” working cooperatively
- Intelligence predominantly at the edges
- Proven to be flexible, adaptable and responsive to users’ needs
- But the Internet presents a challenge to traditional governance players and mechanisms
 - The Internet is inherently global, and therefore trans-jurisdictional
 - There is no shared model for what is acceptable and what is not (with obvious exceptions)
 - Nothing new, but the challenges can appear to be new

Internet Model

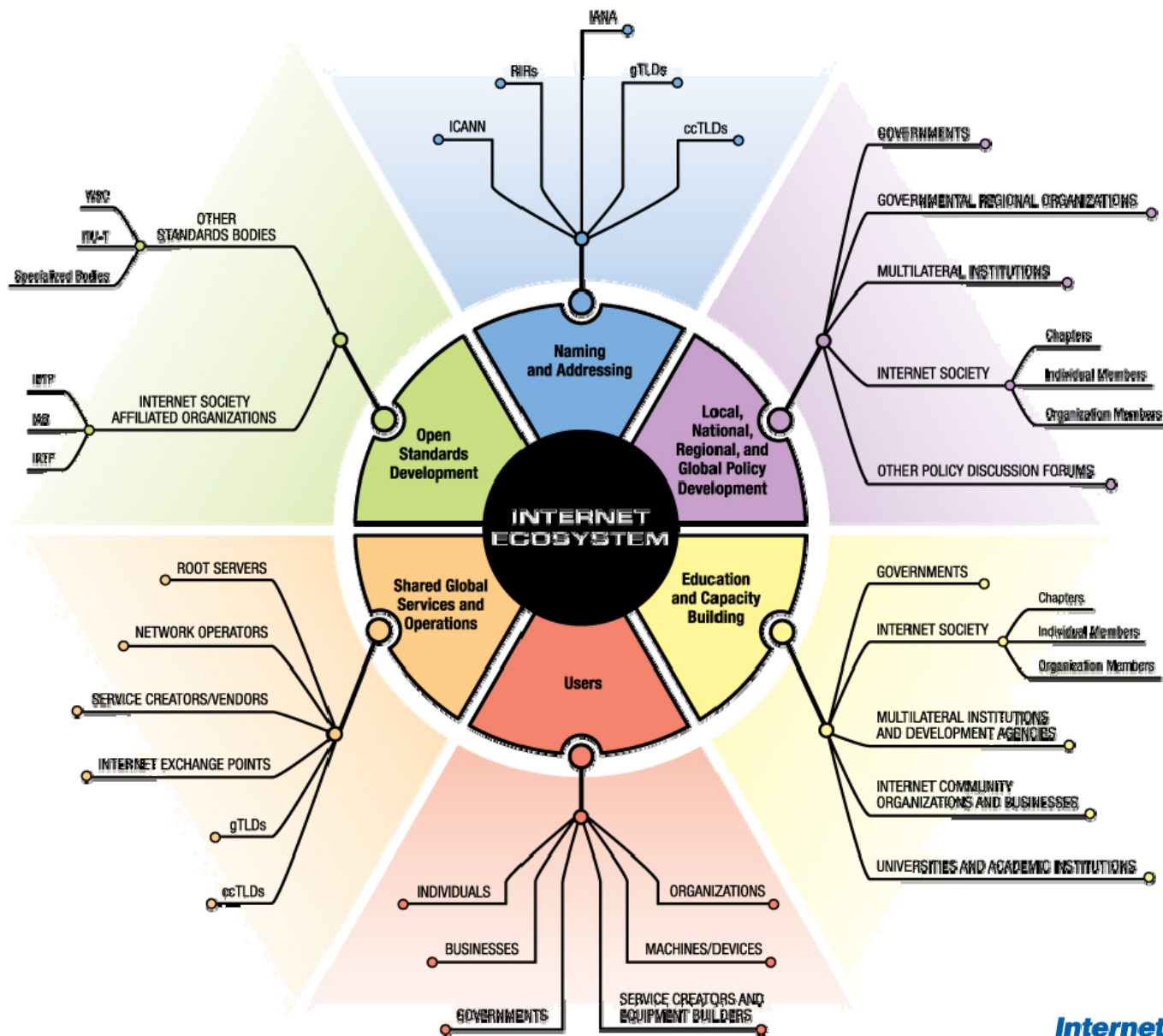
The Internet is successful in large part due to its unique model of development and deployment:

- Shared global ownership – no central control
- Open technical standards
- Collaborative Engagement models – researchers, business, civil society, government
- Freely accessible processes for technology and policy development
- Transparent and collaborative governance



On the Specific Area of Traffic Management

| Who | Role | Challenges |
|--|---|---|
| Open Standards Development | Develop globally applicable technical standards for the handling of Internet traffic | Specific commercial interests -- seeking to promote particular kinds of applications, services, or network technologies |
| Shared Global Services and Operations | Provide unprejudiced service to all for all | Threats to security, defend against abuse, desire to offer advanced services |
| Users | Expect unlimited access to the global Internet, using the best network available or agreed to | Understanding service offerings; taking the open Internet for granted |
| Education and Capacity Building | Ensure the network is global in reach and application of operational standards | Resources; addressing advanced network challenges (i.e. congestion) on limited and possibly aged network infrastructure |
| Naming and Addressing | Uniform access to global identifiers | Running out of IPv4 (prevalence of NATs); new network opportunities exceed IPv4 (China Mobile; SmartGrid, etc) |
| Local, National, Regional and Global Policy Development | Protect the public interest; meet national goals | The Internet is global, not national |



Congestion Management in Historical Perspective

Past...

- Congestion collapse in IP networks was predicted in mid-1980's
 - See RFC896, January 1984
- In fact – observed in October 1986
 - [NSFnet](#) phase-I backbone dropped three orders of magnitude from its capacity of 32 kbit/s to 40 bit/s
- Was resolved by development and implementation of new congestion control technology
 - Van Jacobson's congestion control standard
 - Implemented in Internet late 1980's (1987- on)

Present

- 2007 Comcast & BitTorrent
 - Comcast accused of blocking / deprecating BitTorrent P-2-P traffic
 - Comcast trying to ensure reasonable network conditions for latency- and bandwidth-sensitive applications (VoIP)
- 2008 -- Comcast & BitTorrent respond constructively to FCC ruling
 - Take discussion to appropriate open forums (IETF) to work out interoperable standards
- Discussions on-going

...Future

- Researchers looking at more powerful, scalable technologies to give networks ability to tune and/or charge
 - application-agnostic
 - not prescriptive on other networks' behaviour
- The work
 - Bob Briscoe, BT – re-ECN (congestion exposure)
 - Beginning work at IETF
 - Discussed at meeting of international corporation C-level
 - GIIC, London, September 2009
 - <http://www.giic.org/pdf/LondonWorkshopReportFinal.pdf>
- The opportunities
 - Comcast, others, recognizing better solutions must interoperate between networks
 - Not just about control of traffic, but also about providing ability to have traffic senders take responsibility